**THOMAS T. WILSON**, President
Nashville, Tenn.

**EDWARD BOLDEN**, Vice President
Darby, Pa.

**C. W. POSEY**, Secretary
312 13th Avenue
Homestead, Pa.

**ABRAHAM MANLEY**, Treasurer
Newark, N. J.

# NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE

November 1, 1945.

Mr. Albert B. Chandler,
Carew Tower ~~Office~~, Bldg,
333 North Michigan,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Chandler:

At a joint meeting of the N N + N A BBL it was decided We ~~I have been delegated by the Negro National Baseball League~~ to write you concerning a situation which has arisen ~~during the past month~~ which vitally affects the future of Negro Organized Baseball.

~~At the time I met you at Griffith Stadium in September, we talked briefly of some matters concerning Negro Baseball, but recent developments cause me to write this letter.~~

a Player "~~Jackie" Robinson of the~~ Kansas City Monarchs--a member of the Negro American League--was signed to a contract to play baseball for Montreal of the International League, a farm of the Brooklyn National League club.

During the past few weeks, players of the ~~Negro National League~~ organized Negro Baseball have been approached by men who claim they are connected with the Brooklyn National League Baseball Club and asked to go to the Brooklyn Club's office at ~~Ebbetts Field~~, Brooklyn, N. Y.

One player, John Wright, a pitcher for the Homestead Grays in 1941-42-43, ~~was~~ in the armed forces in 1944 and 1945. ~~In 1945, he was at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, but was on salary and pitched for the Homestead Grays when off duty~~.

These players have been told of the possibility of their entrance into white organized baseball if they either sign a contract to play with a farm team of Brooklyn or play with a Negro team called the Brooklyn Brown Dodgers, a team which is in no manner connected with Negro Organized Baseball.

The Negro National League + NAL ~~has a~~ have constitution~~s~~ keeps minutes of their meetings and ~~has~~ have player~~s~~ contracts just the same as any baseball league of white Organized Baseball.

~~I am certain that the Negro American League operates in the same manner, inasmuch as we have a joint agreement between the Negro National League and Negro American League just as the National League and American League have a national agreement.~~

~~Enclosed are samples of our contracts. The one sheet contract was drawn up in a short form to enforce discipline, but it stipulates practically everything, in a condensed form, that is embraced in white Organized Baseball contracts.~~

~~This~~ Our contract was tested before Common Pleas Court Judge Marshall of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania in 1941 in a case: Homestead Grays vs . Josh Gibson, a catcher, who had jumped his contract to play baseball in Mexico. The Homestead Grays were awarded a verdict of $10,000. damages.

The contract now in use is almost an exact duplicate of the white National League contract.

We are not protesting the signing of ~~Jackie Robinson or any other player of organizes Negro Baseball~~ Negro players by the white ~~majors~~ baseball. ~~We are protesting the manner in which he was signed.~~

we are glad to see our players get the opportunity to play in the white ~~major league~~ leagues. We are protesting the way it was done

We feel that the clubs of Organized Negro Baseball who have gone to so much expense to develop players and establish teams and leagues, should be approached, and deals made between clubs involved, even though Negro Organized Baseball is not a part of white Organized Baseball.

That is the only way in which we can be assured that Negro Organized Baseball can continue to operate.

Very truly

I have taken this matter up with Mr. Clark Griffith of the Washington American League Club and Mr. Sam Waters, Vice President of The Pittsburgh National League Baseball Club. Both men appeared to have the same view-point that members of our leagues have, but they advised me to write at once and explain matters to you,as Commissioner.

The Negro National League is holding a meeting at the Theresa Hotel, 125th St. at Seventh Avenue in New York City on Friday, November 9, 1945 at 1 P. M.

I have been asked by our members to invite you to attend this meeting, since it is for the specific purpose of discussing the present situation concerning the raiding of Negro Organized Baseball clubs by white Organized Baseball Clubs, especially the Brooklyn National League Club.

President J. B. Martin of the Negro American League will attend this meeting.

Due to illness, our President Thomas T. Wilson will not be present, but he is in accord with our actions.

Very truly yours,

C. W. Posey

C. W. Posey, Secretary
NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE
312- E. 13th Ave.,
Homestead, Pa.

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